

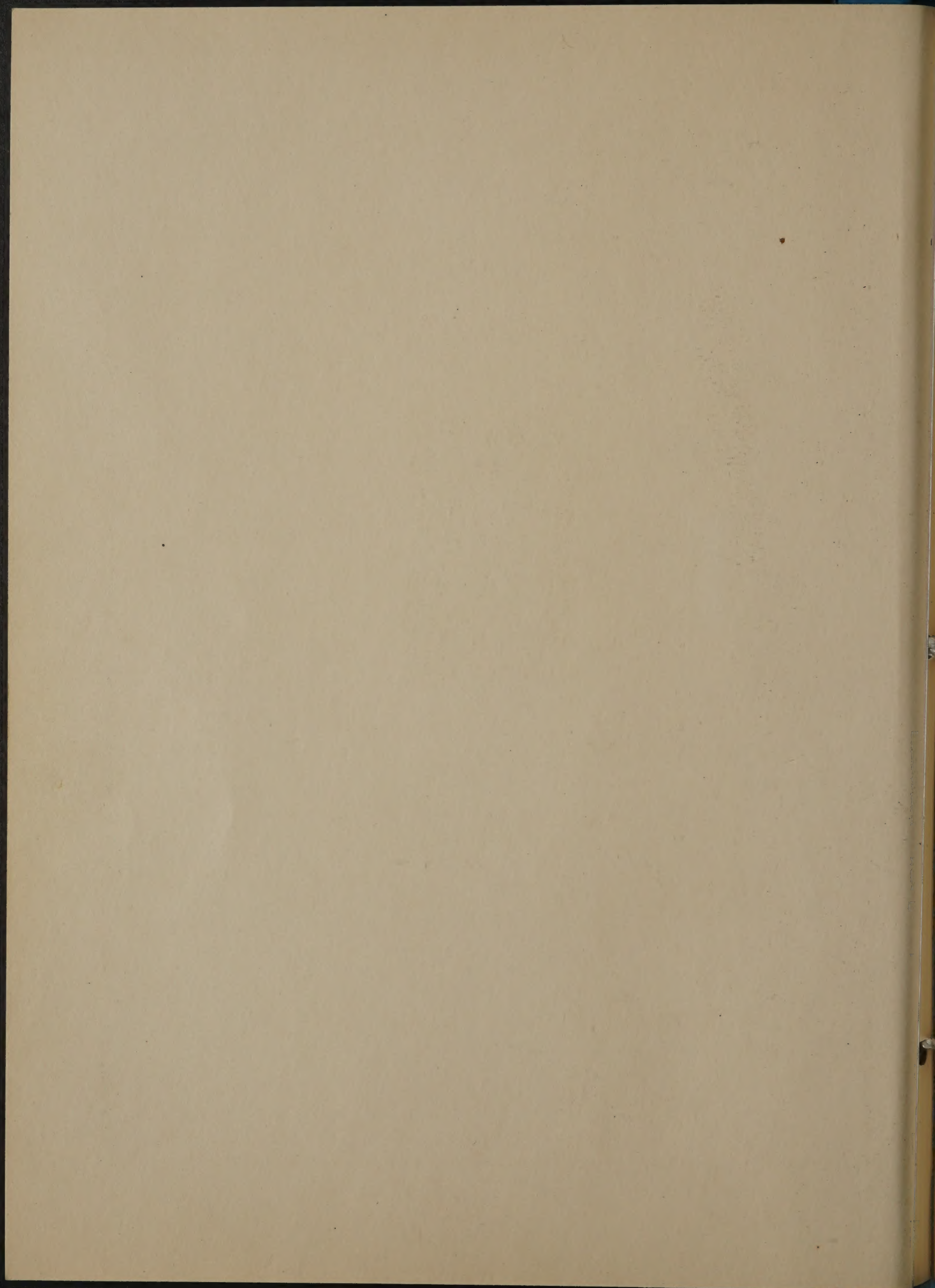
THE SPAN



Natural Bridge High School

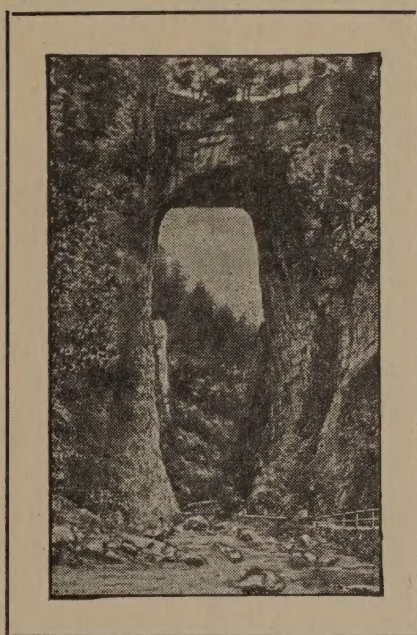
1940

Essie Sandidge
Natural Bridge, Va.



THE SPAN

THE SPAN



PUBLISHED BY

Natural Bridge High School

VOLUME 3

1939--1940

THE SPAN

THE SPAN

Noble Span of Ages
Men call the Natural Bridge
Your name is known
Your story told in countless written pages.

Span of Ages-- Arch of God sublime
In awe and reverence we gaze
Upon your mass of stone
Enduring from the dawn of time.

Span of Ages, Mystery Bridge
Miracle in stone
In the Shenandoah Valley
Nestled deep within the Blue Ridge.

Span of Ages, Noble arch that towers
Far into the silent night;
Solemnly we gaze and marvel
That such a place is ours.

Span of Ages, wondrous in thy beauty,
We dedicate these pages here
To you who in your might and splendor
Teach us nobly of our duty.

Span of God, in thy holy charm we see
A glorious emblem of immortality;
May we ever be like thee:
Strong, majestic, steadfast, free.

—— Mrs. Edgar Smith

DEDICATION

We, the Seniors, Annual Staff, and Student Body of Natural Bridge High School, in appreciation for all the advice, inspiration and assistance so willingly and helpfully rendered us, do in this year, 1940 A. D., dedicate this issue of "The Span" to Mr. Francis Gilkeson, who has won our respect and honor.

* * *

THE STAFF

Editor in Chief	Joel Williams
Assistant Editors	Bimmie Wood
	Dorothy Cummins
Business Manager	Richard Braford
assistant	Eloise Whitmore
Production Manager	Jeanne Campbell
Production Assts.	Miller Smith
	Vernell Slough
	Allie Wilkerson
Sports Editor	Charles Claytor
Class Editors	Virginia Parsons
	Virginia Blankenship
	Matah Camden
	Fae Cash
	Bruce Thompson
Art Editors	Beulah Radford
	Ruth Dunman
Jokes	Elizabeth Fix
	Willys Hunter
	Carl Chaplin
Faculty	Mrs. Smith
	Mr. Gilkeson

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Strickler



Smith



Huffman



Bolton



Gilkeson



Burnett

The Faculty

Millard P. Strickler, A.B.
Hampden-Sidney, U.Va.
Wm. & Mary
Principal
History

Hunter H. Huffman, A.B.
Wash. & Lee Univ.
History, English
Boys' Coach

Francis C. Gilkeson, A.B.
Wash. & Lee Univ.
Science, Math
Glee Club

Mrs. Edgar Smith, B.A.M.A.
Elizabeth College,
Univ. Pittsburgh
English, Latin
Dramatics

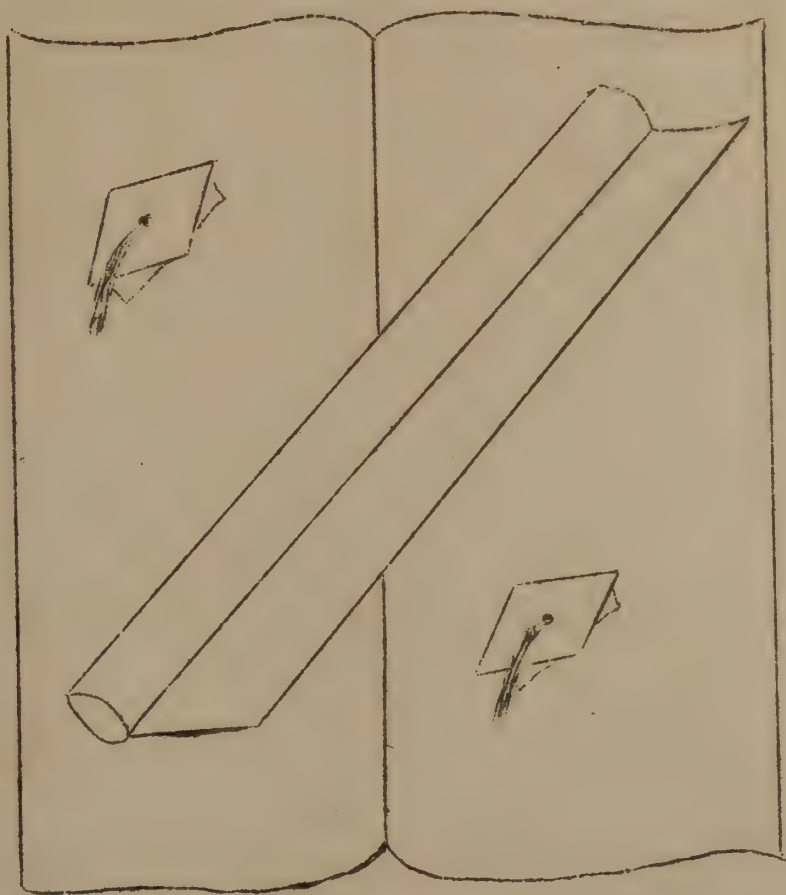
Alice Bolton, B.S.
Madison College
Math, English
Girls' Coach

Maude Burnett, B.S.
Madison College
Home Economics

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SENIORS



ERNESTINE ARMENTROUT

Glee Club '35-'40 Dramatic Club '40
Baseball '39 Vice Pres. Senior Class '40

"Good nature is stronger than tomahawks"

Ernestine has coöperated with us and worked hard to reach the goal of a fine character. Now she is ready to step out to give her place to some other student.

She will be remembered as a sincere and good natured friend. We have enjoyed having her with us and wish for her much success and happiness.

* * *



TATE THOMPSON BRADY

Basketball '37, '38, captain '40.
Baseball '39, '40

"I love happiness"

Tommy, as he is known by his classmates, has been an encouraging and helpful member of his class. His bright smile and even, pleasant ways have won for him many friends at N.B.H.S.

Tommy has always been willing to do his part, both in the class room and in athletics. Your pleasant ways will never be disliked.

* * *



RICHARD CLEVELAND BRAFORD

President Senior Class. Varsity Club in '39, '40. Football captain '39
Basketball '37, '38, '40. Baseball 38, 39, 40

"A friend in need is a friend indeed"

Richard has a pleasing personality, which has made him a favorite with students and teachers alike. He has been outstanding in all sports on the campus and has won for himself an enviable record in athletics. We wish for Richard a successful role in the game of life.



RANDOLPH CLAYTON CAMDEN

Basketball '37, '38, '39, '40, Football '39,
Baseball '37, '38, '39, '40, Staff '38, '39
Glee Club '40. President of Student Body

"The most useless day of all is that in
which we have not laughed."

Although he excells more in athletics
than in school work, Clayton has the
qualities to make a great success of any-
thing he undertakes. He is honest, sincere,
and unselfish, and will make friends where
ever he may go. We wish you success and
happiness, Clayton, and may character
always come first with you.

* * *

GEORGIA ISABELLE CAMDEN

Basketball '37, '38 captain '40. Class
president '37, vice-pres. '38. Staff '38,
'39. Sec. '40. Pres. glee club '40
Pres. Home Ec Club '40.

"Never do today what you can do tomorrow"

As a whole Isabelle has been a great help
help in building up the standards of the
school so far as the pupil is concerned.
She is well liked by all, making friends
with both boys and girls as she comes in
contact with them. She will be greatly
missed by all when she graduates, but
we're sure she will be a leader as she
goes out in later life.

* * *

ALMA CLARK DAVIS

Class Reporter '40, Vice-pres. of the
Junior class '39

"Nothing succeeds like success."

Alma is a very prominent member of
Glasgow and Natural Bridge High Schools.
She earned a monogram in Glasgow and she
is planning to go to college after she
gets through high school. We all hope
Alma finds a vocation to suit her and
she will be happy with it.



VIOLA GERTRUDE FIREBAUGH

Glee Club '35-'40. Treas. Home Ec.
Club '40. Dramatic Club '40.

"Be willing to give up everything for
any one you love."

Viola is one on whom we feel we can
depend without the slightest chance of
being disappointed. She has been a true
pal, always willing to help in any under-
taking. Her winning smile and pleasing
ways have won many friends at N.B.H.S.

Viola, we wish for you a most success-
ful life.

* * *

PAULINE VIRGINIA FLINT

Glee Club '38, '40. Dramatic Club '40.

"Ready, willing and able"

Always true to her motto, Pauline has
been a faithful member of our class.
She is quiet and well liked by all.
With her friendly and willing ways, she
will be able to make a success out of
what work she undertakes in her future
life.

* * *

HELEN MARIE LEWIS

Basketball '36-'40, captain '39, mgr. '37
Baseball '37-'40. Dramatic Club '40.
Glee Club '39, '40. Junior Play '39.

"To be loved, be loveable."

Helen is one of our most active mem-
bers in athletics. She is a good sport,
a willing student, and has made us all
love her.

Helen has been a faithful member of
the class since she started with us in
her freshman year. We wish her lots of
luck and happiness.



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VIRGINIA STONER PARSONS

Baseball '37, '38, '39. Basketball '37, '38, '39. Vice-Pres. '39. Sec. Glee Club '39. Junior Play. Volleyball '40, Prophet class of '40. Staff of Bridge Bulletin and Span '40.

"One who never goes backward, but marches forward"



The class of '40 would be in no way complete without Virginia. Her bright smile and pleasant ways have helped us through many gloomy days. She has ranked high not only in friendship, but also ranked high scholastically.

With sad hearts we look to our parted future and say, "Good Luck, Virginia!"

* * *

BETTY KATHLEEN POWELL

Junior Play '39, Glee Club '39, '40. Dramatic Club '40, sec. Dram. Cl. '40. Senior Literary Society '40.

"Smile, and the world smiles with you"

Kathleen has become a never-to-be-forgotten member of the class of '40. She has won many friends by her winning smiles and pleasant ways. If Kathleen doesn't have a good word for a person, she never says a bad one. She is always willing to do her part and do her best.

"Best wishes, Kat."

* * *

ESSIE FLORENCE SANDIDGE

Basketball '38, '39, '40. Vice-Pres. of class '38. Treas. class '39. Glee Club in '38, '39, '40. Voice Staff '39. Bridge Bulletin Staff '40. Sec. Treas. of student gov. '40. Treas. Dramatic Club '40.

"Better be small and shine, than large and cast a shadow."

Essie's record above shows her importance to the school. Her winning smile and pleasing personality have won her many friends in school and out.

Dear Essie, we wish you much success and happiness in your future life.



JACKSON AUGUSTA SLOUGH

Basketball '38, '40, Baseball '37, '38, '39, '40. Football '39. Literary Soc. '40

"Take life easy and have no regrets."

Jack has been with us for four years and has proved that he is true to us. He helps in athletics and he is a good sport. His special "hobbies" are ball games and smiling at the girls. May the best of luck and happiness go with him through life.

* * *

ALFRED WOODROW THOMAS

Basketball '36, '37, '38, '40. Football '39
Baseball '37, '38, '39, '40. Varsity club
'38, '39, '40.

"The harder the battle, the sweeter the victory"

Al is one of our star athletes. In football, baseball or basketball you can depend on him being right there. He is also known for his ability as an actor in the different plays and not the least of his achievements is his ability to get along with the fair young ladies.

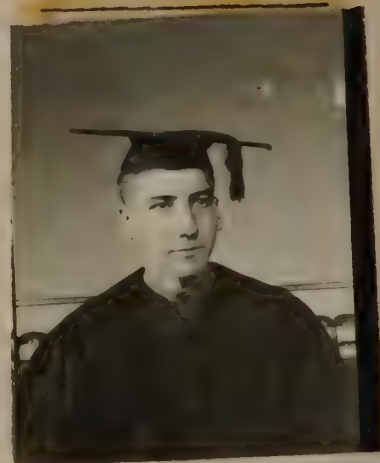
* * *

RUTH ELIZABETH THOMPSON

Glee club '39, '40, Dramatic club '40
Class reporter '39, Lanier Lit. Soc. '40
Home Ec club '40.

"Good character is human nature in its best form."

Something small and very snappy,
Vivacious, gay, and always happy
But in deed and purpose true
To herself and others too
Working, studying with a zest
Ever striving for the best.



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JOEL HUSTON WILLIAMS

Football '39, Baseball '39,
Class treasurer '40, Editor Span '40

"Speak what you think."

Joel has been a faithful and loyal worker in his class. Although Joel never gained any great laurels as an athlete he has never quit trying.

Joel's frank, honest, business-like way has made him a favorite with his classmates and teachers. Keep the good work up, Joel! The world needs better business men.

* * *

BIMMIE WOOD

Basketball '37, '38, '39, '40, Baseball
'37, '38, '39, '40. Glee club '38, '39, '40
Dramatic club '40, Staff '39, '40

"Have you had a kindness shown—
pass it on!"

Bimmie, with her quick wit and ready smile, proves a real friend to all who know her. She has not only proven herself capable in school work but in athletics as well. With the sincerity and determination she has shown we feel sure she will make a great success of her life. May success come to one who really deserves it.

* * *

B. L. WOOD, JR.

Basketball '38, '39, '40, Baseball '38,
'39, '40, Football '39. Pres. varsity
club '39, editor of Voice '39, editor
of Bridge Bulletin '40.

"Still achieving, still pursuing"

Junior is one who is always working. He is very studious and always succeeds in reaching his goals. He has proven himself a true friend to both teachers and classmates. It was with sad hearts that we gave Junior up at the second term of our Senior year, but we know that he will succeed in his new school as in past.

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CLASS WILL

We the Senior Class of 1940, being physically and mentally sound, (with a few exceptions) do hereby execute this document, our last will and testament.

Clause I

1. To Mr. Strickler, we hereby bequeath a pair of Star brand shoes to replace the ones he wore out running up and down the halls to investigate our noise.
2. To Mrs. Smith, we leave a copy of "Little Red Ridinghood". She may use it to entertain her children-- the Seniors.
3. To Mr. Huffman, we hereby will a nice mustache because he looked so hands ome with one in the Faculty play.
4. To Miss Burnett, we leave a frying pan and a jar of mustard to help her along with next year's "hot dogs".
5. To Mr. Gilkeson, we will a spot light to enable him to drive through Glasgow without hanging a parked car.
6. To Miss Bolton, we leave a Rabbit's Foot. May she have better luck next Leap Year.

Clause II

1. I, Ernestine Armentrout, do will to Beulah Radford my quiet and peaceful disposition.
2. I, Viola Firebaugh, do will to Marjorie Pole my secret on how to grow tall.
3. I, Essie Sandidge, do will to Madeline Dickerson my ability to play ball and give her a "tip-off" on how to stay small.
4. I, Virginia Parsons, do will to Dorothy Cummins my ability to learn Chemistry.
5. I, Helen Lewis, do will to Lucy Thomas my friendly smile for everyone.
6. I, Bimmie Wood, do will to Ruby Austen my ability to attract the boys. May you get a letter from a Freshman, Ruby.
7. I, Alma Davis, do will to Elizabeth Fix my ability to learn and give "Current Events".
8. I, Isabelle Camden, do will to Helen Mohler my curls. Take care of them as I do, Helen.
9. I, Kathleen Powell, do will to Willys Hunter my blushes and smiles. Use them, Willys.
10. I, Pauline Flint, do will to Dorothy Davis my ability to write answers say.
11. I, Ruth Thompson, do will my heart and love to a certain Junior.
12. I, Alfred Thomas, do will to Ralph Watts my good sportsmanship.
13. I, Tommy Brady, do will to Leroy Miller my ability to talk and my love for flowers (Daisies).
14. I, Clayton Camden, do will to John Cash my ability to play ball, and my secrets on how to win the ladies.
15. I, Richard Braford, do will to Eloise Whitmore my place as Class President. Best of luck, Eloise.
16. I, Jack Slough, do will to Junior Thompson my tact on how to catch a baseball. Don't forget, Junior.
17. I, Joel Williams, do will to Randolph Wills my laziness. Don't let it get the best of you.

HISTORY

It is a pleasant time to turn back the pages of our bygone school days and as we do we look into the bright faces of two happy school groups in "pigtails and pinafores", one at Glasgow—another at Natural Bridge, back in the year 1936.

The Autumn of 1936 is indeed a memorable date in the annals of Rockbridge County, for at this time two illustrious classes were launching out in the sea of learning—one class at Natural Bridge and the other at Glasgow. Both of these classes gave every promise of riding the waves successfully into that most coveted harbor of graduation.

Glasgow freshmen soon made their presence felt not only in the athletic program but also in the classroom, while the Natural Bridge freshmen were taking very firm root in athletics and all other school activities. We were young and verdant in those days but we soon won the love and admiration of our elders and what wonder: "None knew us but to love us." "None named us but to praise."

Soon our Sophomore year was upon us and we entered school with a great deal of pride and many ambitions. Our teachers thought that we were "a little wild", but we were full fledged "ladies and gentlemen" and proved ourselves ready for anything that came upon our educational journey. Again we furnished more than our share of athletes and other leaders in both schools. We were quite aware of our superiority over the verdant freshmen, but, strange to say, we could not convince the Juniors of this evident fact. We can't account for such a lack of understanding, but some day they will be sorry. Nevertheless we are sure to say these were stormy days for both groups of Sophomores, and we were indeed crestfallen because we were not appreciated. But all things come to an end and so did our Sophomore year.

It is 1938 and we are Juniors. Much talk is filling the air about a new school. So it was with mingled joy and sorrow that we began to look forward to our Senior year. But we were determined to "improve each shining hour" and so we studied hard and played with all our might. Both Glasgow and Natural Bridge Juniors were important on all teams and as leaders in all activities. N.B.H.S. Juniors applied their talents to the production of a three-act comedy drama "Up she goes" and much talent was discovered.

At last the longed for Senior year has arrived. These two illustrious classes have been merged and have united their forces in our New Modern school building. It makes us sad to say Good-bye to the place where we have played together, worked together and made friends

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SENIOR HISTORY--cont.

together which will never be forgotten in the years to come. As we go on our ways there are some things we will forget, but the thought of never forgotten friendships and worthwhile experiences will often come back to bless and cheer us on our way as the years go by.

Thus closes the annals of this illustrious class of ours, and incidentally this closes another important chapter in the life of N.B.H.S.

* * * * *

HALL OF FAME

Boy		Girl
	Best Looking	
Joel Williams		Isabelle Camaen
	Most Attractive	
Clayton Camden		Essie Sandidge
		Kathleen Powell
	Best Athlete	
Alfred Thomas		Bimmie Wood
	Most Friendly	
Richard Braford		Ernestine Armentrout
	Best Sport	
Richard Braford		Essie Sandidge
	Most Popular	
Clayton Camden		Isabelle Camden
	Most Accomodating	
Richard Braford		Viola Firebaugh
	Most Dependable	
Joel Williams		Viola Firebaugh
	Best Natured	
Richard Braford		Virginia Parsons
	Best Actor	
Tommy Brady		Virginia Parsons
		Helen Lewis
	Most Personality	
Joel Williams		Ruth Thompson
		Kathleen Powell
	Most School Spirit	
Richard Braford		Essie Sandidge
	Wittiest	
Alfred Thomas		Bimmie Wood
	Most in Love	
Clayton Camaen		Isabelle Ca mden
		Bimmie Wood
	Best-all-round	
Richard Braford		Essie Sandidge

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PROPHECY

The day of the great clinic was at hand. I had been busy all day arranging matters at the hospital so that I might be able to arrive at the clinic in time for its opening. Kathleen Powell, superintendent of the Jefferson Hospital in Roanoke, who was an old classmate at N.B.H.S. was to stop and pick me up for Clinic in Washington. I confess my thoughts were more on seeing Kathleen and talking over old times.

In a few moments Kathleen drove up in a prosperous car and we were off together. I was thrilled to hear of the success she was having as superintendent of the hospital. She was the same old girl I had known.

"You should have been with Ernestine Armentrout and me last night," said she. "We went over to Roanoke College to see Clayton Camden's 'five smart boys' trounce Long Island University basketball team. Clayton, our old classmate, was proud of his five smart boys."

She said Ernestine was getting along fine as private secretary to one of the large Insurance Companies in Roanoke, the same quiet and serene girl we had known at N.B.H.S.

It hardly seemed we had been driving long enough to be in Washington, but we were. We decided to spend the night in George Washington Hotel, where all other nurses were staying. We were just in time for opening of Clinic. The building where Clinic was being held was crowded with doctors and nurses. We had to sit in back. I sat next to a small person whose face seemed familiar. I asked Kathleen and guess who it was? Bimmie Wood.

After the clinic was over we asked Bimmie where she was staying and she said, "George Washington Hotel."

We immediately went to the hotel so we could be quiet and talk over old times. Bimmie was now superintendent of one of the largest hospitals in Richmond. She was the same old laughing, jolly spirit we knew her to be in school days. She told us about Isabelle Camden who was private secretary to the Governor, Alfred Thomas, who had forsaken athletics for politics.

Just then a message came that someone was to see us. We all wondered who in the world it could be. In stepped our old classmate Tommy Brady, who was now chief engineer of the Department of the Interior. He had heard about Clinic and thought maybe he would see some of us. He was anxious to know about all of our classmates. When he left he asked us over to see the White House. We wanted to go anyway, because my old friend Essie Sandidge was private Secretary to the President's wife. So Bimmie, Kathleen and I went over. Everything was beautiful. Essie was surprised to see us. She was the same small, pretty girl we had always known. She showed us around and introduced us to the President's wife. We were invited to stay for tea. We had a fine time. Essie told us that Helen Lewis, another one of our classmates, was living in Washington and was a most famous aviatrix.

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Prophecy--continued.

The next morning Kathleen and I were leaving for home. Bimmie went back to Richmond on the train. We were parted again for I knew not how long. Kat asked if I wanted to stop at Blacksburg, and I told her "Yes". So we stopped and looked around. We saw a very stately and dignified man walk out of one of the buildings and came down the walk towards us. I recognized his face as some one I knew. Sure enough it was Joel Williams, an old classmate who was teaching mechanical engineering at V.P.I. He asked us about everybody. We told him where we had been and whom we had seen. He asked us home with him, but we told him that we wanted to stop by Natural Bridge Station and see the old school. He told us about Jack Slough, who was now a mechanic at the Ford plant in Detroit. We told Joel goodbye and were on our way again.

We stopped at Natural Bridge Station, which had now become a small town. We went up to the school. There we found Alma Davis, the plain dignified girl we had known in school. She was teaching Home Economics, having taken the place of Miss Burnett, who had now become the head of her own household. All teachers had retired and were living the rest of their life in ease.

As we were leaving the school we saw a pretty blue-eyed girl playing in front of a beautiful brick bungalow and wondered who lived there. We stopped to ask the little girl what her name was. Just then her mother came out, and who was it but Ruth Thompson, that lovely girl we had known at N.B.H.S. She was wife of the new owner of Chiles & Barger Company. Ruth told us that Viola Firebaugh was owner and proprietor of that Fancy Dressmakers Shop we had seen when we came up to school.

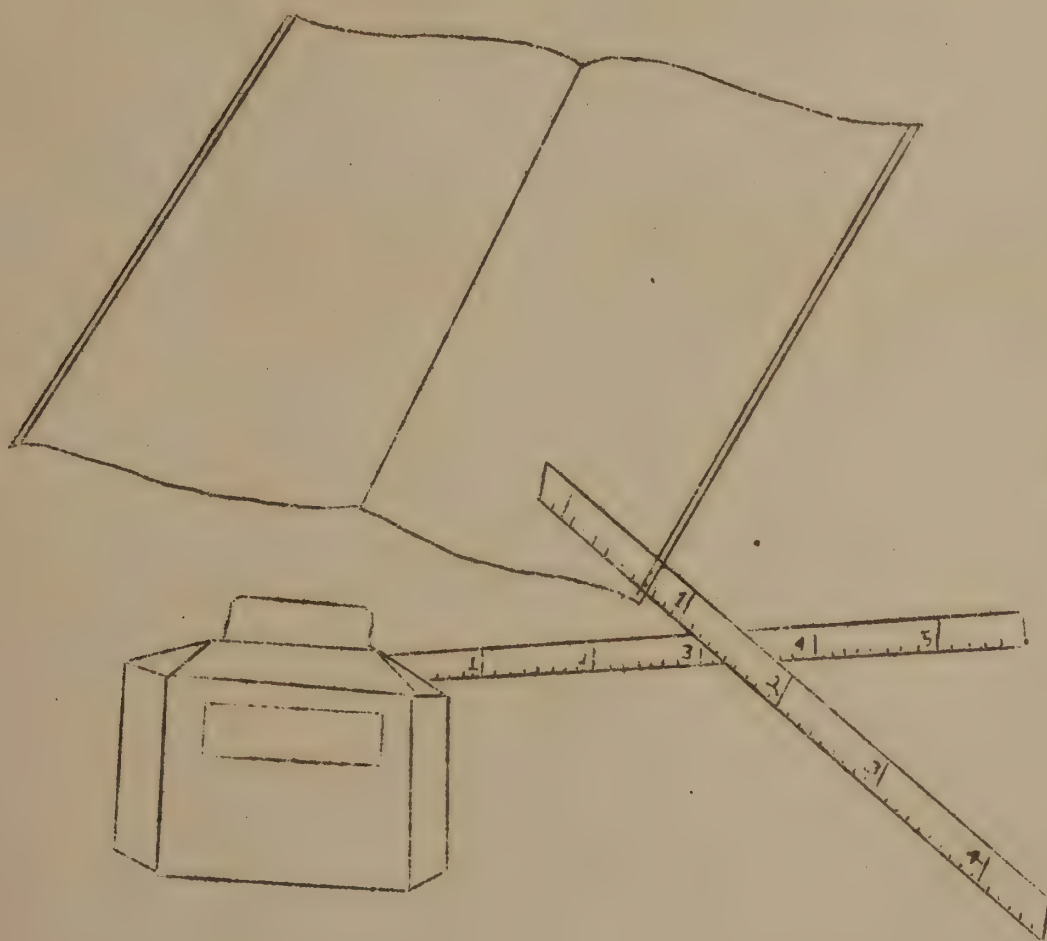
As we came on we stopped to see Viola, who was the same girl we had always known. She told us about Pauline Flint, who was in Pittsburgh starring in the famous radio serial, "I hope, I hope, I hope." We asked her who owned that large farm with a large brick house called "Furtale Farms" and guess who it was! It was none other than Richard Braford, the President of our Senior class.

Alas!! This trip in memories' lane was over and we must turn our faces again to our work. So, as I arrived at the hospital it was with much regret and home-sickness that I watched Kathleen pull out for Jefferson Hospital in Roanoke.

— Virginia Parsons

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JUNIORS



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JUNIORS

RALPH WATTS
 MILDRED M CORMICK
 ELIZABETH WHITESIDE
 CARL LEWIS CHAPLIN
 LULA BELLE AUSTEN
 ORA BELLE HUFFMAN
 RANDOLPH WILLS
 KENT PERRY
 LEROY MILLER
 LUCY THOMAS
 OVERTON TUCK
 MILLER SMITH

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JUNIORS

BEULAH RADFORD
 GWENDOLYN GROW
 NELSON WATTS
 WILLYS HUNTER
 VIRGINIA BLANKENSHIP
 EILEEN PERRY
 LOUISE SCOTT
 DOROTHY DAVIS
 ELIZABETH FIX
 DOROTHY CUMMINS
 HELEN MOHLER
 ELOISE WHITMORE
 RUTH AUSTEN

HISTORY

Listen! Every day history is being made. September 7, 1939 will be a long remembered date in the history of Rockbridge County schools.

What do you think was happening on this date? Well, if you want the correct answer just ask the "Jolly Juniors" of Natural Bridge High School. It was on this date that the gay, light-hearted Juniors of Glasgow High School were assembling with the smiling faced Juniors of old Natural Bridge High School in a new building at Natural Bridge Station.

It was quite an adventure to begin the third year of our High School work in a new building, with many strange boys and girls, and new teachers.

Our "Jolly" class of twenty-six elected new officers soon after the opening of school. For president we chose Eloise Whitmore, with Ralph Watts as Vice-president. Our treasurer is Mildred McCormick and our reporter, Claude Camden.

Strange as it may seem, yet it's really true. These two groups have cooperated splendidly and have enjoyed working together very much.

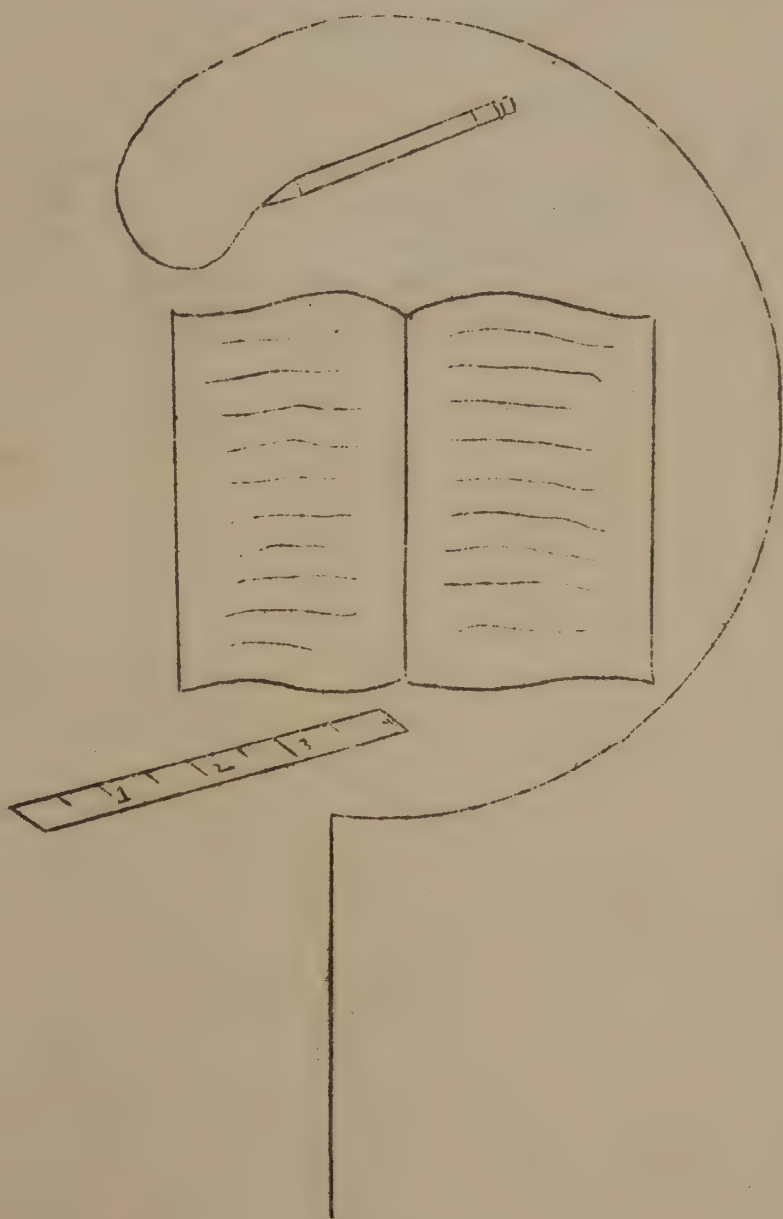


CLASS INDIVIDUAL CHARACTERISTICS

Name	Noted For	Name	Noted For
Mildred McCormick	Voice	Kent Peery--	basketball
Eloise Whitmore	Playing piano	Ralph Watts--	amusing girls
Ora Bell Huffman	Gigaling	Helen Mohler--	beautiful hair
Dorothy Cummins--	working Geometry	Willys Hunter--	fouls in basket.
Elizabeth Fix--	looking for some boy	Dorothy Davis--	talking Eng.Cl.
Randolph Wills--	pestering the girls	Miller Smith--	big feet
Claude Camden--	sleeping in Latin	Gwen Grow--	spelling
Lula Bell Austin--	her hats	Carl Chaplin--	romantic nature
Virginia Blankenship--	brilliance	Nelson Watts--	football
Elizabeth Whiteside--	awkwardness	Lucy Thomas--	boy friends
Overton Tuck--	being late for school	Ruby Austin--	quietness
Eileen Peery--	asking questions	Louise Scott--	talking to Joel
Beulah Radford--	<u>in Geometry</u>	Leroy Miller--	sweet smiles
	oratorical ability		

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SOPHOMORE





SOPHOMORE CLASS PICTURE

CLASS ROLL

Robert Austen
 Junior Barger
 Ellen Birmingham
 Alpha Bolt
 Robert Braford
 Matah Camden
 John Campbell
 Virginia Campbell
 John Cash
 Charles Claytor
 Daisy Claytor
 Talmage Claytor
 Bruce Dixon
 Ashley Ferguson
 Dorothy Firebaugh
 Marjorie Fox
 Jack Funkhouser
 Leroy Gilbert
 Anna Ginger
 Mildred Goodwin

Crystal Grim
 Morris Grim
 Jacqueline Holland
 Mack Leech
 John Lewis
 Eugene Livesay
 Juanita Mayo
 Vivian McCormick
 Murphy Miller
 Norman Mohler
 Lawrence Moxley
 Nancy Parsons
 Eva Mae Powell
 Geneva Rice
 Mary Edna Roberts
 Vernell Slough
 Junior Thompson
 Boyce Tucker
 Billy Whitmore
 Harry Wolfe

SOPHOMORE CLASS HISTORY

The Sophomore class of 1939 assembled at Natural Bridge to begin their work as sophomores after a very hard year as freshmen. At the beginning of the term the following officers were elected:

President: Marjorie Fox

Vice President: Talmage Claytor

Secretary: Matah Camden

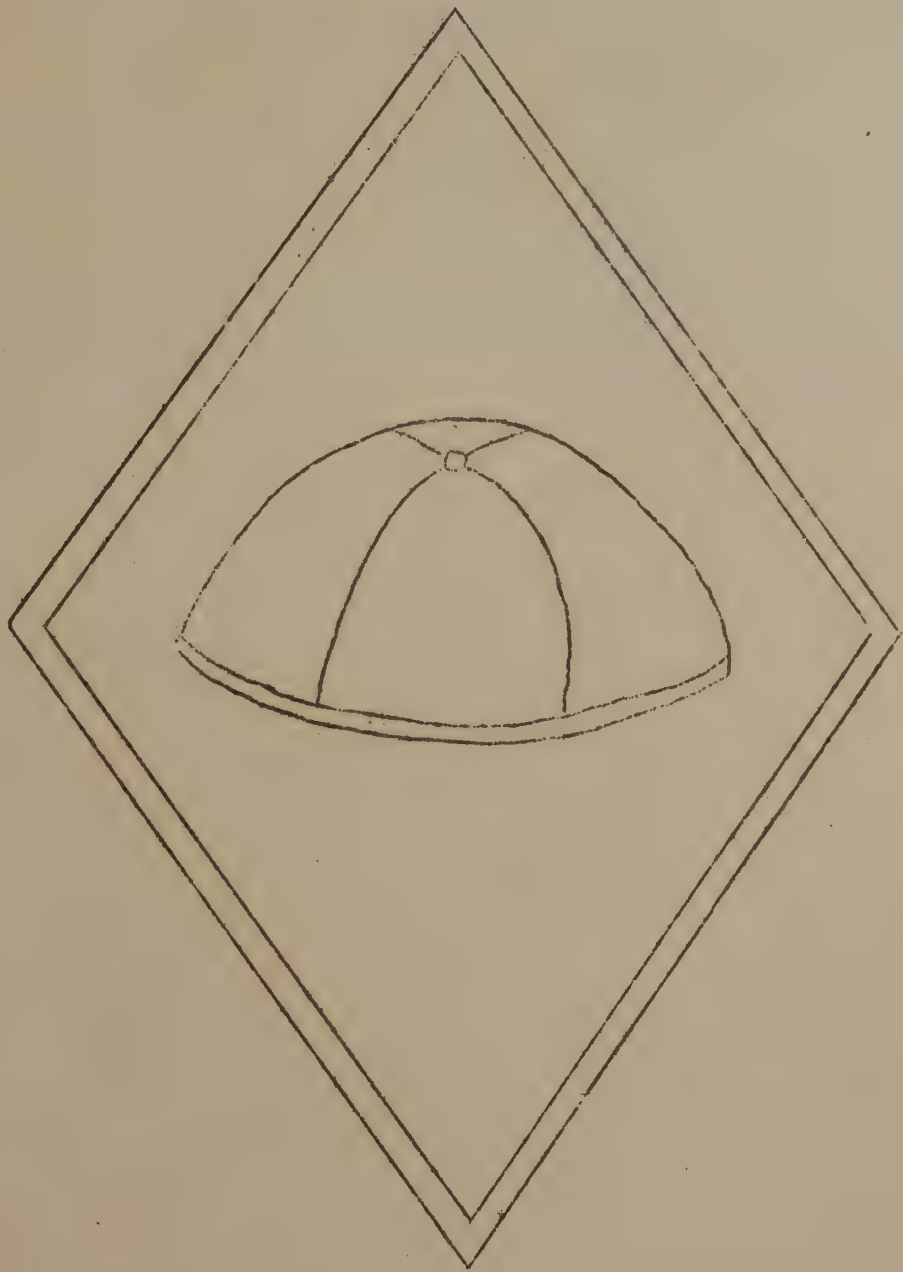
The total enrollment was about forty. Various members of our class have taken part in many of the activities including football, basketball, and volleyball. Many others have taken part in the Glee Club and the Dramatics Club. Two literary societies have been organized, and the Sophomore class belongs to the "Page Literary Society".

We have been working hard in our Sophomore year, hoping to be Juniors next year.

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THE SPAN

FRESHMIEN





FRESHMAN CLASS PICTURE

CLASS ROLL

Lee Armentrout	Mary Ginger	Van Smith
Charles Blackburn	Claude Harrison	Noreen Thomas
Alvah Brads	Anne Hayslett	Virley Thomas
John Brads	Claudine Hunt	Gladys Thompson
Juanita Bryant	Glen Johnson, Jr.	Calvin Thompson
Fae Cash	James Johnston	Eruce Thompson
Ballard Clarke	Mary Lackey	Faye Tuck
P.R. Clatterbaugh	Marian Lotts	Calvin Watts
India Claytor	Alvis Lunsford	Charles Watts
Cristine Cummins	Billy A. McAlpin	Harry Watts
Irma Cummins	Sammy Mitchell	Juanita Watts
Norma Cummins	Talmage Martin	Gilbert Watkins
M.E. Dickerson	Justyne Mohler	Wm. Watkins
Anne Downey	Maurice Padgett	Allie Wilkerson
Ruth Dunman	Albert Parks	Bernard Wilkerson
Calvin Fainter	Marjorie Pole	J.C. Wills
Curtis Fainter	Jean Roberts	Clara Worley
Loleta Fix	Dot Sandidge	Gilberetta Worley
Ruth Foster	May Saunders	Clida Worth
Clara Garrett	Iva Shepherd	Claude Wolfe
Buford Braford	Helen Smith	

FRESHMAN DATA

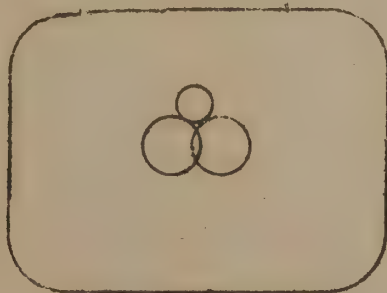
On September 7, 1939 we entered Natural Bridge High School. We were then sixty-three happy freshmen. Some have dropped out along the way, but most of us have kept on. Our class was so large it was divided into two sections, A and B.

Section A consists of pupils whose last names begin with A to M. We elected Claudine Hunt for president; Claude Wolfe, vice-president, Marion Lotts, secretary-treasurer; and Sammy Mitchell was our choice for reporter. Among those who have given up the idea of any more formal education are Claude Harrison and Claudine Hunt. Two or three others came to school for about three days and then tired of school. Our home room teacher is Miss Maude Burnett.

Everybody who is a freshman and whose name begins with any letter from N to Z belongs to Section B. Our home room teacher is Mr. Francis Gilkreson. For class officers Van Smith was chosen president, Gilbert Watkins vice-president, and Faye Tuck was the choice for reporter. When Faye dropped school to be married, Marjorie Pole, smallest person at good old N.B.H.S., was chosen class reporter. Others who tired of school in this section were Alvis Lunsford and Maurice Padgett.

For class representatives on "The Span" we have Fae Cash from Section A and Bruce Thompson from Section B.

We have had failures in both classes, but we are working hard and hope to be sophomores next year.



THE SPAN

POST GRADUATES



Jeanne Campbell
Glasgow



Peter Parsons
N.B.H.S.

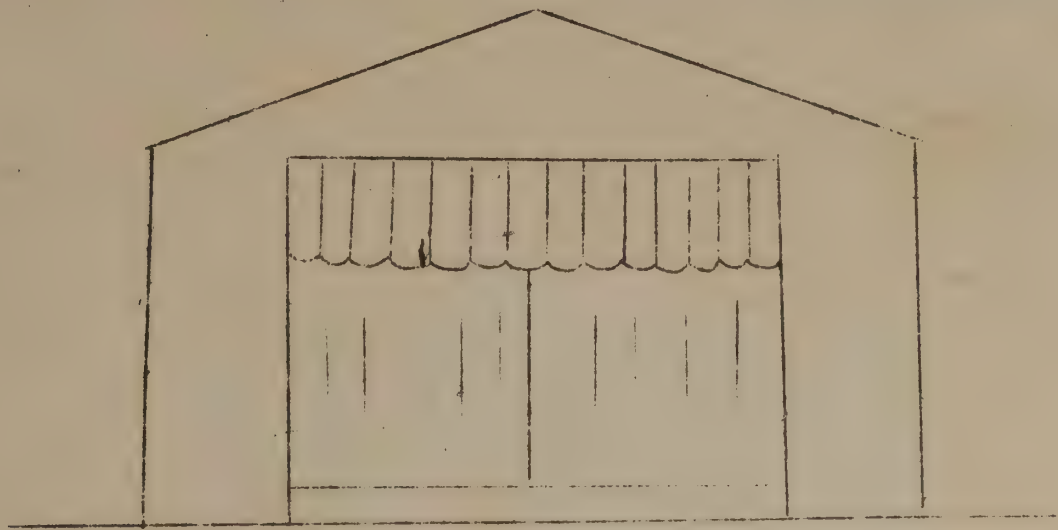


SCHOOL CALENDAR

1939 - 1940

Sept. 7	School opens
Sept. 29	Football season begins
Oct. 6	Volleyball Season begins
Oct. 6	First issue "Bridge Bulletin"
Oct. 13	Amateur Show
Nov. 17	Home Ec Club Party for squads
Dec. 15	Operetta, "Betty Lou"
Jan. 5	Basketball Season begins
Feb. 23	Faculty play
Feb. 28	Basketball Tournament
March 19	Literary Contest
March 29	One Act Plays
April 5	Baseball Season begins
April 18	District Literary Contest
April 19	Junior Play
May 7	Junior Senior Party
May 9-10	State Literary Contest
May 10	Track Meet at Goshen
May 17	Music Festival at Lexington
May 17	Alumni Dance
May 21	May Day Exercises
May 25	Senior Dance
May 29	"The Span" issued
May 31	Senior Play
June 2	Sermon to Graduates
June 3	Commencement Exercises





ACTIVITIES

Three musical score cards are shown, overlapping each other. The top card is titled "God Bless America" and shows the first line of the melody. The bottom-left card is titled "Sun down" and shows the first line of the melody. The bottom-right card is titled "Darling Clementine" and shows the first line of the melody. The author's name, Ruth Dunman, is written at the bottom right of the page.

God Bless America

Sun down

Darling Clementine

Ruth Dunman



DRAMATIC CLUB

The Dramatic Art Club was organized in the fall, with seventy-five members. The following officers were elected:

President:	Eloise Whitmore
Vice Pres:	Isabelle Camden
Secretary:	Kathleen Powell
Treasurer:	Essie Sandidge
Director:	Mrs. Smith

Early in the Autumn the Dramatic Club coöperated with the Glee Club in presenting an operetta, "Betty Lou". Later the Junior and Senior members of the Dramatic Club presented three one-act plays, one of which plays, "Mimi Lights the Candle" was selected to be given in the district tournament. In the tournament it was officially declared to have first place. This play was entered in the state tournament at Charlottesville, May 9. The Dramatic Club sponsored a May Day program at which time Virginia Parsons was crowned Queen of May. The Dramatic Club was assisted by other groups of the school in entertaining the queen on the court green.



THE GLEE CLUB

President: Isabelle Camden
 Vice Pres: Jeanne Campbell
 Secretary: Helen Lewis
 Treasurer: Gwendolyn Grow
 Pianist: Eloise Whitmore

The first meeting of the Glee Club was called by our director and adviser, Mr. Gilkeson, on September 29. We were very pleased and encouraged by the number of students who joined the club.

Soon after the club was well organized we began work on the operetta, "Betty Lou". With much hard work from Mr. Gilkeson, who had charge of the music, Mrs. M.P. Strickler, who directed the play, and ready coöperation of both Dramatic and Glee Club members the operetta was presented on December 15. The presentation was very successful. The Glee Club also presented two public programs in March: one on the nineteenth when the Literary contest was held, and the other on the twentyninth, when three one-act plays were given.

During the latter part of the school session the club spent most of its time learning to sing the songs selected for the County Music Festival held on May 17. A number of new songs were learned, including "Sundown", "God Bless America", "A Merry Life", "The Kerry Dance", and various other selections.

(Reported by Louise Scott)

LANIER LITERARY SOCIETY

President: Clayton Camden
Vice Pres: Isabelle Camden
Sec.-Treas: Essie Sandidge

The Seniors and Freshmen were joined together at the beginning of the year in organizing the Lanier Literary Society. The first meeting was held on November 9.

The purpose of this society, as it was explained to us at the beginning by our sponsors, Mr. Strickler and Miss Burnett, is to teach us to be able to speak, recite, read, or debate before an audience without feeling we are unable to do it. Our aim was to win over opponent, the Page Society, in the contest we planned to hold.

We held several meetings and each time different ones took part. This lead us to our main activity, the contest which was held March 19. Many took part on the program and worked hard. But when the judges chose the winners the score was tied. However the debate broke the tie by Page winning.

PAGE LITERARY SOCIETY

President: Dorothy Firebaugh
Vice Pres: Eloise Whitmore
Secretary: Gwendolyn Crow
Treasurer: Eva Mae Powell

At the beginning of the year the Page Literary Society was organized with a large enrollment composed of the Junior and Sophomore classes.

The Literary Society was named in honor of Thomas Nelson Page. The purpose of our society is to prepare its members for public speaking.

Several meetings were held during the year, and at these meetings the members were given a chance to debate, recite, and orate.

We gave a play entitled "A Christmas Intruder" at Christmas. Later a contest was held between the Page and Lanier Societies. The contestants for the Page Literary Society won.

Two of our members, John Campbell and Charles Claytor, entered the State Literary Contest held at Charlottesville.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank Miss Bolton for her patient and untiring efforts in directing us.



VARSITY CLUB

Standing: H.H. Huffman, Jack Slough, Morris Grim, Tommy Brady,
Richard Braford, Mack Leech, Al Thomas, Kent Perry, Pete Parsons.
Sitting: Harry Wolfe, Nelson Watts, Carl Chaplin, John Cash,
Clayton Camden, Robert Braford.

NB

THE ANNUAL SPICE

Mr. Huffman: There's something wrong with this cake. It doesn't taste right.

Mrs. Huffman: That's just your imagination. It says right here in the cook book that it is delicious.

* * *

Red Watts: How is the best way to find a man out?

Bruce Thompson: I don't know.

Red: Go to his house when he ain't at home.

* * *

Mac Leech: Do you really think it is possible to communicate with the dead?

Charles Claytor: O yes, I hear you distinctly.

* * *

Isabelle: It's remarkable—ever since I met Joe I haven't been able to sleep.

Carl: Ah-h, the pangs of love, no doubt.

Isabelle: No, he keeps calling me up at all hours of the night.

* * *

Mr. Gilkeson: What is the best thing to tell a woman.

Richard B.: I don't know. What?

Mr. G.: Nothing.

* * *

John Campbell: I suppose you have traveled a lot.

Tommy Brady: Yes, all over the world.

John: How long have you been at it?

Tommy: Quite a while. I crossed the Dead Sea before it died!

* * *

Al Thomas (stopping to think): You can get a barrel of fun out of a pint.

* * *

Mrs. Smith: Correct this sentence, "Girls is naturally better looking than boys."

Miller: Girls is artificially better looking than boys.

* * *

Isabelle: I don't understand baseball at all, do you?

Bimmie: You don't have to understand it. Everything is decided by a man you call the umpire.

* * *

Randolph: It's all over the house!

Mr. Huffman: What?

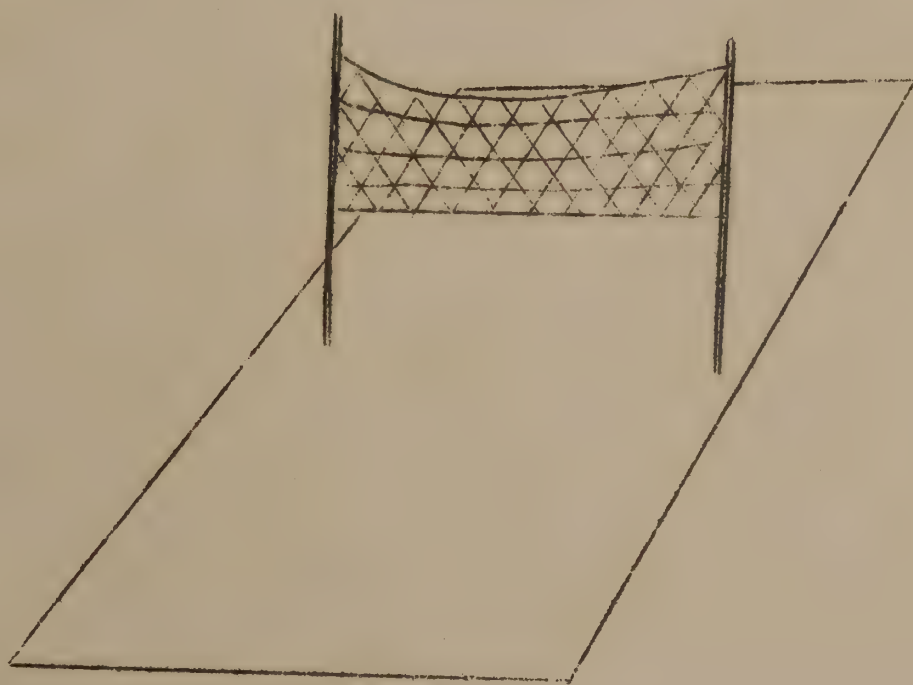
Randolph: The roof.

WHAT GOES ON BEHIND THE SCENES

1. Who is Randolph's new girl? Is it Willys?
2. Eloise shouldn't confuse the basketball referee with her sweet smiles. Should she, Pete?
3. John Campbell knows he shouldn't make dates at recess.
4. WHY does Gwen always borrow Louise's comb before she goes to History class? Your guess is as good as ours.
5. Claude Camden must keep late hours, or he wouldn't sleep in class.
6. Why does Clayton come to Geometry class every day? Could Jeanne explain?
7. Buying an extra bar of candy every day will count up, Miller. Isn't Dorothy sweet enough?
8. Why does Louise always go to study hall at activity period? Does she really have so much studying to do?
9. Ralph, don't forget that courtship is strictly forbidden. Maybe Ann can do something about this.
10. Wonder if Rich willed his hat to someone, or could he be parted from it?
11. We think Kent likes to smile at a certain little blond in the Junior class.

THE SPAN

ATHLETICS





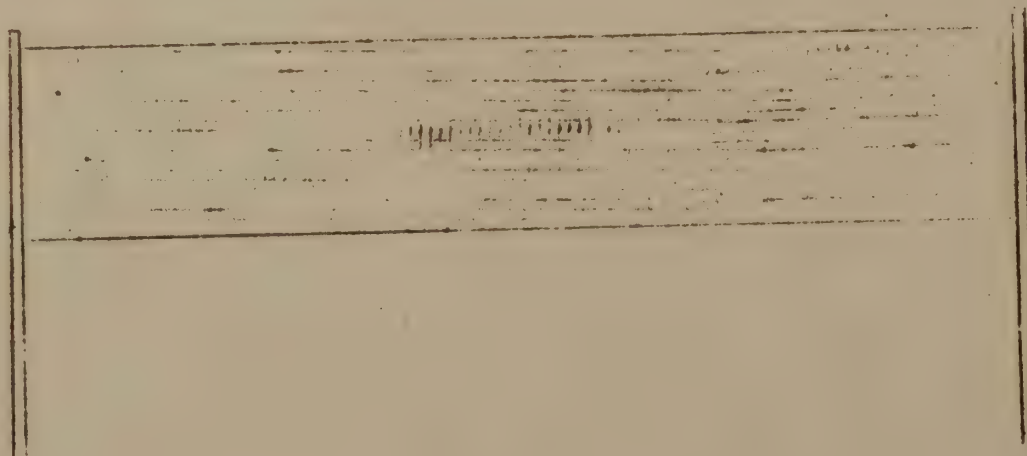
Back row, left to right:

Nancy Parsons, Eileen Perry, Coach Bolton, Virginia Parsons, Dorothy Davis, Marjorie Fox.

Front row:

Fimmie Wood, Dorothy Cummins, Willys Hunter, Anne Hayslett, Deulah Radford, Ora Belle Huffman.

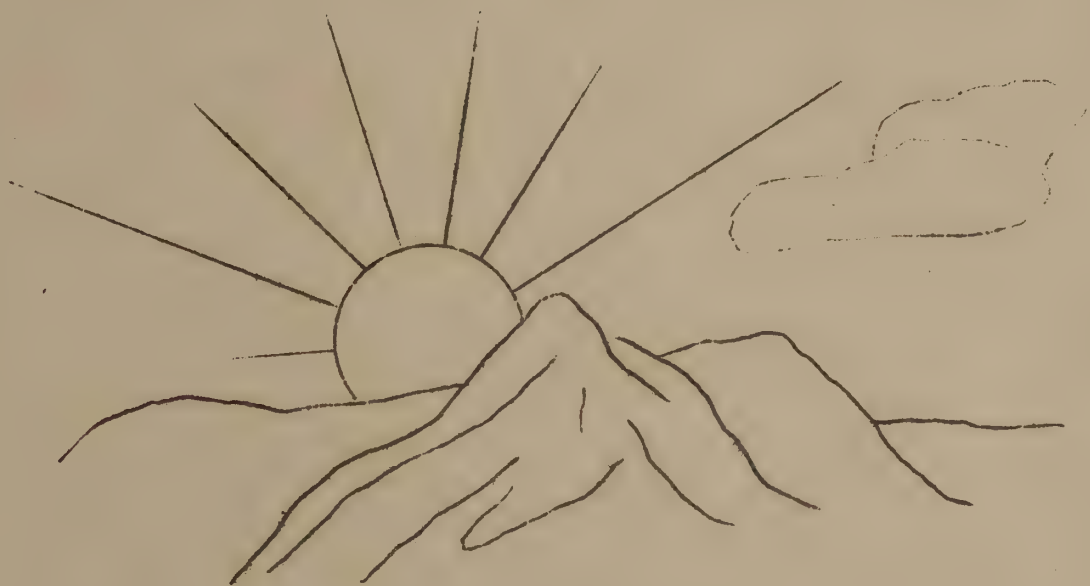
VOLLEYBALL SQUAD



VOLLEYBALL

In the fall of 1939 a new sport, Volleyball, was initiated in the county. Many of the girls in the school were not interested in the game in the beginning of the season, but became enthusiastic boosters before the end.

Due to the fact that none of the girls had seen the game played, there were rules to learn, difficulties to overcome. The girls showed rapid progress in both technique and skill, and in each game improvement was noted. Although the girls lost all the games played, they really learned the game and laid the foundation on which to build a successful season next year.





Standing, left to right:

Coach Huffman, Harry Wolfe, Joel Williams, Junior Wood, Jack Slough, Miller Smith, John Campbell, Allie Wilkerson, Tommy Brady.

Squatting: Talmadge Martin, Calvin Watts, Nelson Watts, Jimmy McElroy, Richard Braford, Mack Leech, Carl Chaplin, Kent Perry, John Cash, Clayton Carden, Al Thomas.

FOOTBALL SQUAD



FOOTBALL

For the first time in the history of sports football was inaugurated in the county, the six man team being used. After losing the first championship game to Fairfield by a score of 8 to 12 our boys came back strong, winning all the remaining games on the schedule. Football ended in a three way tie between Effinger, Fairfield, and Natural Bridge.

The following ones won letters: Captain Braford, Camden, Thomas, Chaplin (captain for 1940), McElroy, Slough, Peery, Cash, Wolfe, Watts N., Martin, and Leech.

The team showed good spirit and sportsmanship in each game.

A large crowd was always present at each game.

Game summary:

	N.B.H.S.	Opponent
Effinger at Lexington	0	20
Fairfield at Fairfield	8	12
Effinger at home	6	0
Goshen at Goshen	48	0
Brownsburg at home	62	12
Millboro at home	56	18



Standing, left to right:

Mildred Goodwin, Virginia Parsons, Nancy Parsons,
Coach Bolton, Willys Hunter, Dorothy Davis, Beulah Radford,
Dimmie Wood, Isabelle Camden, Eileen Perry, Anne Kayslett.
Kneeling: Essie Sandidge, Helen Lewis, Dorothy Cummins.

BASKETBALL SQUAD



GIRLS BASKETBALL

An enthusiastic group of approximately 35 girls reported to Miss Bolton for basketball practice the first week in December. From this group a squad of eighteen was selected.

The first championship game was with Fairfield on the home court. After a hard fought battle the N.B.H.S. girls won by a lead of one point. The next three games—with Effinger, Brownsburg and Goshen, were dropped to the opponents by a small margin in each case.

The last four championship games were played by two division rules. This was a break for the girls, and only one of the four games was lost. The team lost to Brownsburg.

Other games played during the season were two with Lexington and one with Troutville. Lexington and the N.B.H.S. girls broke evenly, each winning one game, while Troutville was victorious.

For the first time in recent years the girls entered the class C District Tournament. Although the girls lost to their opponents they got the pleasure of playing.

Game Summary

N.B.H.S.	16	Fairfield	15
N.B.H.S.	19	Effinger	25
N.B.H.S.	23	Brownsburg	28
N.B.H.S.	19	Goshen	25
N.B.H.S.	53	Lexington	35
N.B.H.S.	32	Fairfield	12
N.B.H.S.	20	Effinger	20
N.B.H.S.	24	Brownsburg	30
N.B.H.S.	22	Goshen	21
N.B.H.S.	19	Brownsburg	36

THE SPAN



Left to right standing:

Coach H.H. Huffman, Morris Grim, John Cash,
Harry Wolfe, Jack Slough, Mack Leech, Robert Braford

Kneeling:

Clayton Camden, Al Thomas, Tommy Brady,
Richard Braford, Kent Perry.

THE



SQUAD

BOYS' BASKETBALL

About thirty candidates reported for basketball, with four veterans from last years Championship team in addition to Camden. It looked as though the season would be very successful. After dropping the first game to Big Island, we won all other games on the schedule until we met Fairfield for the second time. Due to colds and sickness the team was not able to play its best ball, and Fairfield won by two points. This created a two-way tie for the basketball championship.

The following won their letters in basketball: Captain Brady, Braford, Camden, Peery, Cash, Grim, Wolfe, and Leech. The score for the season was 472 points. High man for one game was Grim, who scored 25 points. High man for the season was Braford, who scored 101 points.

The fact that we had an indoor court was greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all players as well as spectators.

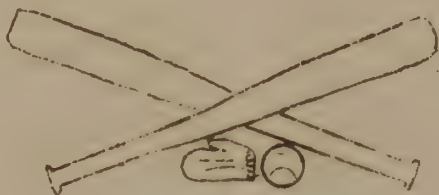
Game Summary

N.E.H.S.	44	Fairfield	12
"	33	Effinger	14
"	47	Brownsburg	11
"	57	Goshen	6
"	26	Fairfield	28
"	36	Effinger	17
"	59	Brownsburg	14
"	37	Goshen	7
"	16	Troutville	9
"	18	Millboro	11
"	36	Troutville	16
"	15	Roanoke College Frosh	39



Standing: Willys Hunter, Alpha Bolt, Daisy Claytor,
Coach Bolton, Nancy Parsons, Ora Belle Huffman, Mildred Goodwin.
Kneeling: Helen Lewis, Eileen Perry, Bimma Wood,
Essie Sandage, Dorothy Cummins.

GIRLS' BASEBALL SQUAD



GIRLS' BASEBALL

The blue and white played teams from Effinger, Brownsburg, Fairfield, and Goshen, both on our home diamond, and then on theirs.

Our captain this year was Essie Sandidge, and our manager Willys Hunter.

The team having been selected by Miss Bolton, the positions were as follows:

Bessie Wood	---	pitcher
Millred Goodwin	---	catcher
Nathey Parsons	---	1st Base
Dorothy Cummins	---	2nd Base
Willys Hunter	---	3rd Base
Virginia Parsons	---	3rd Base
Alpha Bolt	---	Shortstop
Eileen Peery	---	Short Field
Daisy Claytor	---	Right Field
Helen Lewis	---	Center Field
Ora Bell Huffman	---	Left Field

Substitutes: Essie Sandidge, Vivian McCormick,
Anne Hayslett.

Game Summary

Nat. Br.	14	Effinger	15
Nat. Br.	9	Brownsburg	10
Nat. Br.	10	Fairfield	8
Nat. Br.	10	Goshen	14
Nat. Br.	1	Effinger	3
Nat. Br.	9	Brownsburg	7



BASEBALL SQUAD

Standing: Manager Robert Braford, Harry Wolfe, Nelson Watts, Mack Leech, Tommy Brady, Talmage Martin, Junior Thompson, Billy Whitmore, Miller Smith, Lawrence Moxley, Coach H.H. Huffman.
 Sitting: Randolph Wills, Jack Slough, John Cash, Al Thomas, Clayton Camden, Kent Peery, Richard Braford.



BOYS' BASEBALL

With the first warm day of spring Coach issued a call for all baseball aspirants. About twenty-five reported. With six letter men from Natural Bridge and six from Glasgow, plus several promising rookies, it is hoped that we will be able to win the majority of our games.

The roster is made up of the following:

Catcher: Slough and Thompson

Pitcher: Camden, Cash, Wilkerson and Whitmore

Infield: Smith, Thomas, Watts, N., Martin, Peery,
Wills, and Claytor, C.

Outfield: Brady, Wolfe, Claytor, T. and Leech.

The team appreciates and wishes to thank all those who made it possible, by their contributions, to have our baseball field put into good condition.

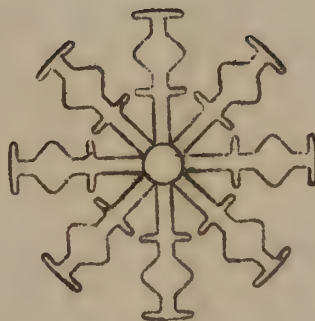
The summary of the games (to May 1st) is:

N.B.H.S.	2	Big Island	3
N.B.H.S.	11	Effinger	0
N.B.H.S.	8	Brownsburg	2
N.B.H.S.	12	Fairfield	10
N.B.H.S.	3	Lexington	6
N.B.H.S.	10	Effinger	5
N.B.H.S.	10	Goshen	3

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